

treating it worthily and fairly have been, for the most part, inaccessible to ordinary students. The late Hon. Jacques Viger did good service in the collection of manuscripts, mainly of an official character, bearing on the military *régime* of General Murray, and some of the most valuable results of his researches were printed by the *Société Historique* of this city, under the editorial supervision of the learned Abbé Verreault. The late Mr. R. A. Ramsay gave much attention to the interval between 1759 and 1774, the year of the passage of the Quebec Act, and his two essays on the subject, read before the Athenæum Club, to which I had the pleasure of listening, were supplemented by a number of *pièces justificatives* of extreme value.* The period in question has an exceptional interest as that of British supremacy through nearly the whole of North America. To the greater portion of it the not inappropriate name of "*Le temps de malaise et de confusion*" has been applied in Canada. But that description is equally applicable to it, if we include the other British colonies. The fate of New France had hardly been decided when the dissatisfaction with the metropolitan administration, which had hitherto been kept dormant by the presence of a powerful rival, began to take formal shape in the New England and other provinces.

The history of Canada, therefore, up to and after 1774,—indeed, on till the loyalist settlements which followed the peace of 1783,—is, to a great extent, mixed up with the movement for independence among its old foes to the south of it. Both on the course of events and the bibliography of the period, much fresh light is shed in the fifth and sixth volumes of the "Narrative and Critical History of America," edited by Mr. Justin Winsor, Librarian of Harvard University, especially in chapter viii. of the former (by the editor) and chapters viii. and ix. of the latter,

*It is to be hoped that Mr. Ramsay's papers will be placed ere long within reach of historical inquirers.